Dear Parents,

Today I was absolutely delighted and proud to address our final assembly for 2015. Today is one of celebration, although tinged with sadness as we also say farewell to our Year 9 leaders tonight as they begin a new chapter in their young lives, the first of many chapters in the years ahead.

Today we congratulated our Prep students on a successful first year of school and our Year 6 students who will progress in 2016 to secondary education. This week each group complete either the first or another chapter of their academic lives and they have all certainly blossomed over their time at our college.

I am extremely proud of all of our students, each and every one of them. Our students excel in many ways, academically, socially, on the sports field, through their personal passions both at school and in the wider community. They represent our school well and I am heartened by the positive feedback we regularly receive from relief teachers and outside organisations that confirm our students reflect our values, of respect, learn and care. Most recently I received a letter of commendation from the local sailing group who completed CPR training with our Year 8 students. They were described as polite, engaged, and supportive of each other and most of all respectful as they learnt a skill we hope they will never need to use.

To some families today it is farewell as your Year 9 student has completed their journey with us. It is never an easy thing to do to entrust your child to someone else. Most of you chose this school rather than it being your local one and some have travelled some distance to ensure that your student attends every day and maximises the learning opportunities offered. Congratulations on raising such an amazing group of young people as you were your child’s first teacher.

This year has been a collective effort by ALL of our staff. They have all been academic guides to our students this year or their previous years of education. Each and every one of them has had a significant contribution to each of our pupils. I thank them all for their work in preparing the students for the challenges and exciting times that lie ahead whether it be here or in another setting. We have seen some of our student’s blossom into leaders. Thank you ALL for caring.

Our student’s enthusiasm shone through joint early years, middle years and whole school programs. Their passion has contributed significantly to the culture of our school. Our 2015 Year 7 students have been an absolute asset to our college this year. I remember how quiet they all were at the start of the year and they have certainly grown. I was certainly amazed me when I watched the final of the recent Slamfest.

Congratulations to you of our Year 7 students on a fabulous first year of secondary school. I am expecting big things from them by the time you reach year 9. Our college is in good hands with them as future leaders.

Every one of our students has assisted in showcasing our school in a positive way through our Year 7 and Prep experience days or simply by the greetings and the smiles exchanged when I take prospective parents on a tour. I am very proud of them all.

There have been many highlights this year curricular and extra-curricular: camps, excursions, the Latitude project, Day for Daniel, cybersafety day to name a few and for our staff our collective work on Professional Learning Teams (Patrick Griffin) where we have focussed strongly together on improving the learning outcomes of all our students.

Continued next page
I am sure each of our Year 9 students is looking to the future many with trepidation but also with great enthusiasm and excitement about what lies ahead. There are so many wonderful opportunities available to your children if they choose to chase them. You can all help your child by continuing to support them emotionally and educationally with their home learning, monitoring them online, encouraging them to join the workforce part-time and spending time in their friendship groups. It is hard to believe as many of our Year 9’s arrived in the world Australia was shining in Sydney with the Olympics and Nikki Webster flew above the Olympic stadium with Kylie Minogue. Where have those years gone?

This is a tough day as the Year 9 students are extremely special to each and everyone here including me. They have built relationships with the staff and welcomed me into the college as I joined Altona P 9 when they entered Year 7. I have appreciated every moment that I have spent with them and have watched them grow in stature and maturity. Tonight they will stand proud with their families. They have been wonderful role models for our younger students whether in the playground, in connections or through their participation in special event days, assemblies or in a leadership role. Congratulations on an outstanding end to 2015 at Altona P – 9 college, We have a right to be proud and I look forward to hearing of the success of our Year 9 students in the years to come.

A huge thank you to the staff you have helped shape each and every one of the students here today. A special mention of Mr Kelly, Mr McGee, Mrs Giles and Mrs Elmer, my leadership team who have driven our college over the year. Your support and efforts are treasured. Along with the work by the administration team Wendy and Simone. Thank you also to our Councillors, Af, Con, Amanda, Sue, Hamish, Matt and Tarius.

Thank you also to Mrs Latiffe and to Mrs Penry who are leaving us at the end of this year. I wish you both every success in the future and thank you for your contribution to our wonderful school.

Enjoy the festive season and the time with your children. I ask that you all look out for each other and stay safe. I look forward to seeing everyone on Thursday January 28th 2015.

Merry Christmas and a very happy new year.

Julie, Matt and the team at Altona P – 9 College.
Our College values Respect, Learn and Care.

Prep: Holly
Year 1 Amelie
Year 2 Joshua
Year 3 Cassidy
Year 4 Mikaela
Year 5 Aaryan
Year 6 Ashleigh
Year 7 Hayley / Thalia
Year 8 Bon
Year 9 Cloe

Special Service and Citizenship Awards

Tim Watts Citizenship Award - Anthony Year 9
School Citizenship Award - Blake Year 9

Specialist Team Awards

MUSIC Taleea Year 3/4, Noah Year 1/2B, Middle Years Finn Year 7
ITALIAN: Kaela (7B), Ava 1/2B
Art: P - 4: Xavier Year 5 - 8: Rahel, Elective art: Deon
Edible Garden Program: Ethan Year 4
Chaplaincy Award: Antonia Year 7
Science Award nominated by Geoff Gymer: Jennifer Year 7
Year 6 Academic Excellence Award - David
Early Years Citizenship Award - Devesh 3/4A

School Captains 2015 Tia and Anthony Year 9

Dux 2015 Amee Year 9
2015 Awards Assembly
Year 9 Graduation
Xmas Raffle Winners

1st: Alex G (prep)
2nd: Xavier M (1/2A)
3rd: Zelda M (1/2A)
4th: Jenna H-B (7A)
5th: Family of Jack L (1/2A)
6th: Abhay P (prep 2016)
7th: Family of Caitlin W (1/2B)
8th: Family of Anusha & Aaryan P (9B & 5/6A)

Thank you!
Students at Altona P-9 College are collecting items for a local organisation to give homeless and at-risk youth a better Christmas.

Year 7 students have collaborated with Altona-based Latitude, an organisation that supports youth from 15-25.

Teacher Joshua Moore said the children had contacted businesses to obtain donations for Latitude Christmas hampers.

Drop-off boxes for community donations have also been set up in the school’s office and at Elle and Stuart Boutique at 89 Pier Street, Altona.

Hobsons Bay council also has a box in its staff lunch room.

"[The students] have been contacting multinational corporations, local organisations and local businesses asking for donations that homeless kids would want," Mr Moore said.

"They’ve been out emailing and walking the streets and approaching businesses. It’s been really good for our kids to see the world from another person’s perspective."

Latitude manager Rhonda Collins described the students’ actions as “absolute gold”.

“It’s young people supporting young people and that’s just magic,” she said. “They came to us; they wanted to find a way to assist us.”

Donations sought include tea, coffee, sugar, biscuits, pasta, rice, sauce, soup, canned food, cereal, spreads, long-life milk and juice, and toilet paper.

Upcoming important dates

Last day of term 4: Friday 18th December 2015
1pm finish

Book collection & fee payment day: Wednesday 27th January 2016
Fee payment due
Online pre purchased book pack &
computer collection
A-J 9.30—12.30
L-Z 1.30—3.00

First day of term 1 2016: Thursday 28th January
8.55am
Altona P-9 College is excited to announce that we are launching a Smartphone app called **Updat-ed** that will make connecting with you so much more convenient.

**Using our interface couldn’t be easier.**

Short messages from the college are pushed out to the App in the ‘Updat-ed’ section. This stores the 25 most recent messages and deletes any older than that.

Event alerts are sent. These can be synced instantly to your smartphone calendar from a simple prompt.

Access relevant links for online purchasing such as JB Education Laptop Portal, Booklists and Uniform Ordering.

Access college newsletters

Access XUNO Parent Portal

To download the **FREE** app just visit the App Store for iPhones or Google Play for Android’s. Search for **Updat-ed** and from the menu select our college. We’ll receive your registration request and will need to approve you before your app is up and running.

We hope you enjoy being **Updat-ed**.
Altona P-9 College
2016 Student 1:1 Laptop Program

Students in 2016 are required to obtain one of the carefully selected options for the ‘Managed BYOD’ program. The Lenovo 11E series selected meet the needs of our students, our teaching and learning philosophy and our college infrastructure.

JB HiFi’s Education branch will handle the program with all business conducted directly with them. JB Education have developed a portal specifically for our college for parents to access and place their order.

How to order...

- Visit the JB HiFi personalised portal for Altona P-9 College...

- Enter the school code .... ALT2016

  1. Select Laptop Program
  2. Read payment options carefully, select device of choice
  3. Select carry case (optional)
  4. Select 3 Year Warranty (compulsory)
  5. Select Insurance Option (Accidental Damage 3 Years recommended)
  6. Select ‘School Pick Up’ as delivery option
  7. Select Payment Option (Pay Upront & Once Credit cheapest options)

  8. Pick Up from Altona P-9 College on Book Collection day... Wednesday 27th January 2016
     (A-J) 9:30-11:30am
     (L-Z) 12:30pm-2:30pm

PLEASE NOTE: The initial ‘Start-up’ of your laptop will occur by our computer technicians prior to pick-up to ensure it is ready.